

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 18 (New): A negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery, comprising a graphite-composite mixture powder (C) that comprises:

a graphite composite powder (A) in which a graphite (D), whose aspect ratio is 1.2 or larger and 4.0 or smaller, is compounded with a graphite (E), which has orientation different from orientation of said graphite (D); and

an artificial graphite powder (B).

Claim 19 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein said graphite (D) is a natural graphite.

Claim 20 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein said graphite-composite mixture powder (C) has

a tap density of 0.8 g/cm^3 or higher,

a BET specific surface area of $1 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or larger and $5 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or smaller, and

an interlayer spacing d_{002} between (002) planes of 0.3360 nm or smaller according to X-ray diffraction.

Claim 21 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein said graphite composite powder (A) has an aspect ratio of 1.1 or higher and 4.0 or lower.

Claim 22 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein said graphite composite powder (A) has

a tap density of 0.80 g/cm^3 or higher and 1.35 g/cm^3 or lower,
a BET specific surface area of $0.8 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or larger and $5.5 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or smaller, and
a volume-based average particle diameter of $6 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ or larger and $80 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ or smaller.

Claim 23 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein said artificial graphite powder (B) has

a BET specific surface area of $0.3 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or larger and $3 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or smaller, and
a volume-based average particle diameter of $3 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ or larger and $30 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ or smaller.

Claim 24 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein the ratio of the amount of said graphite (D) to the amount of said graphite composite powder (A) is 30 weight % or higher and 97 weight % or lower.

Claim 25 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein the ratio of the amount of said graphite composite powder (A) to the amount of said graphite-composite mixture powder (C) is 35 weight % or higher and 98 weight % or lower.

Claim 26 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein said graphite (E) and said artificial graphite powder (B) are made up of the same material.

Claim 27 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein said negative-electrode material further comprises a natural graphite powder (G), and the ratio of the amount of said graphite-composite mixture powder

(C) to the total amount of said graphite-composite mixture powder (C) and said natural graphite powder (G) is 20 weight % or higher and 90 weight % or lower.

Claim 28 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein when an electrode with an electrode density of $1.63 \pm 0.05 \text{ g/cm}^3$ is formed using said negative-electrode material as an active material, the orientation ratio of the active material is 0.07 or higher.

Claim 29 (New): The negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18, wherein a lithium secondary battery produced using said negative-electrode material has a discharging capacity of 345 mAh/g or larger.

Claim 30 (New): A method of producing a negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery, comprising:

mixing pulverized matter of a graphite crystal precursor, which is obtained through heat treatment of a pitch material whose quinoline insoluble content is 3 weight % or lower, and graphite (D), whose aspect ratio is 1.2 or higher and 4.0 or lower and whose tap density is 0.7 g/cm^3 or higher and 1.35 g/cm^3 or lower;

carrying out heat treatment A on the mixture obtained from said mixing;

pulverizing the product of said heat treatment A; and

carrying out heat treatment B on the product of said pulverizing.

Claim 31 (New): A method of producing a negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery, comprising:

preparing a graphite composite powder (A) from a pitch material, whose quinoline insoluble content is 3 weight % or lower, and a graphite (D), whose aspect ratio is 1.2 or higher and 4.0 and whose tap density is 0.7 g/cm^3 or higher and 1.35 g/cm^3 or lower; preparing an artificial graphite powder (B) from a pitch material; and mixing the graphite composite powder (A) and the artificial graphite powder (B).

Claim 32 (New): A negative electrode for a lithium secondary battery, comprising:
a current collector; and
an active material layer formed on said current collector;
wherein said active material layer comprises a negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 18.

Claim 33 (New): A negative electrode for a lithium secondary battery, comprising:
a current collector; and
an active material layer formed on said current collector;
wherein said active material layer comprises a negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery produced by a production method as defined in claim 30.

Claim 34 (New): A negative electrode for a lithium secondary battery, comprising:
a current collector; and
an active material layer formed on said current collector;
wherein said active material layer comprises a negative-electrode material for a lithium secondary battery produced by a production method as defined in claim 31.

Claim 35 (New): A lithium secondary battery comprising:

a positive electrode and a negative electrode capable of intercalating and deintercalating lithium ions; and
an electrolyte;
wherein said negative electrode is a negative electrode for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 32.

Claim 36 (New): A lithium secondary battery comprising:
a positive electrode and a negative electrode capable of intercalating and deintercalating lithium ions; and
an electrolyte;
wherein said negative electrode is a negative electrode for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 33.

Claim 37 (New): A lithium secondary battery comprising:
a positive electrode and a negative electrode capable of intercalating and deintercalating lithium ions; and
an electrolyte;
wherein said negative electrode is a negative electrode for a lithium secondary battery as defined in claim 34.